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REMARKS

The Official Action, dated October 14, 2004, has been received and its contents carefully noted. Claims 1-7 were pending. By the present amendment, claims 1-6 have been amended and claim 7 has been cancelled. Thus, claims 1-6 are now pending in the application. Accordingly, it is respectfully requested that the foregoing amendment be entered and fully considered by the Examiner.

Specifically, by the foregoing amendment, claim 1 has been amended to include some of the features of claim 2 and to more clearly set forth the claim features. Also, claims 4-6 have been amended to add features as well as to improve form. Support for the amendments can be found, for example, from page 10, line 25 to page 11, line 8, on page 11, lines 21-25, from page 2, line 18 to page 13, line 3, from page 13, line 22 to page 14, line 1, on page 14, lines 10-17, and from page 23, line 15 to page 24, line 14.

Turning now to the rejection, on page 3 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 3-7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,199,008 to Aratow et al. (hereinafter Aratow). Additionally, on page 4 of the Office Action, claims 1 and 2-5 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,337,008 to Gotou et al. (hereinafter Gotou). Also, on page 5 of the Office Action, claims 6 and 7 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Gotou in view of WO 97/07457 to Phelen. In view of the Amendments provided above and the comments to follow, Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections.

The present invention, as now set forth in claim 1, is directed to an information service system. The system comprises an in-vehicle unit mounted in a vehicle, a computer installed at a specific location other than the vehicle, and a server linked to the in-vehicle unit and the computer via a network. The in-vehicle unit and the computer each comprise map data. The server comprises pieces of map selection data, each of which specifies a map to be selected, and pieces of coordinate data, each of which specifies a point where additional information is to be presented on the selected map. The server is configured to transmit a piece of map selection data and a piece of coordinate data to the in-vehicle unit or the computer. The in-vehicle unit and the computer are configured to present the individual maps by selecting a specified map from among the pieces of map data based on the

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associated piece of map selection data transmitted from the server. Information is added to a specified point on the selected map based on the associated piece of coordinate data transmitted from the server.

As discussed above, the server is configured to transmit map selection data and the coordinate data to the in-vehicle unit or the computer. Additionally, the in-vehicle unit or the computer selects the map based on the received map selection data and presents the map by adding the information onto the associated map. This type of system increases system efficiency through the reduction of the amount of data required to be transmitted to the in-vehicle unit or the computer. Applicants respectfully submit that Aratow and Gotou do not teach or suggest every feature of the present invention as now set forth in independent claim 1.

The Aratow patent, directed to an aviation, terrain and weather system, transmits the map data from data servers to the computer system. The Gotou patent, directed to a navigation apparatus, discloses transmitting the map data from an information server to the navigation apparatus.

Applicants respectfully submit that neither Aratow or Gotou disclose transmission of map selection data. For example, the Aratow patent does not disclose or suggest the transmission of pieces of map selection data each of which specifies a map to be selected and pieces of coordinate data each of which specifies a point where additional information is to be presented on the selected map as now set forth in independent claim 1. Instead, data downloaded in Aratow appears to be more generic. For example, as illustrated in FIG. 8 of Aratow, the communication interface module receives data in the form of a report, a location and time. The contents, once downloaded, are parsed and extracted into more specific objects and actions. As a result, a map database is updated with location geometry changes or icon creations. Applicants submit that Aratow however, does not disclose transmission of pieces of map selection data, each of which specifies a map to be selected, and pieces of coordinate data, each of which specifies a point where additional information is to be presented on the selected map, as now recited in independent claim 1.

The Gotou patent is directed to a navigation apparatus that includes a web browser for navigation of the Internet. However, like Aratow, Gotou does not appear to disclose or suggest transmission of pieces of map selection data each of which specifies a map to be

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selected and pieces of coordinate data each of which specifies a point where additional information is to be presented on the selected map, as now set forth in independent claim 1. While Gotou discloses transmission of various types of data as illustrated in FIG. 9, there appears to be no specific data related to selection of a map or of coordinate data which specifies a point where additional information is to be presented on the selected map.

Applicants note that with regard to independent claims 4-6, similar features to independent claim 1 are now variously recited. Moreover, regarding claim 6, Applicants respectfully submit that WO 97/07467 to Phelen does not solve the deficiencies of either Aratow or Gotou. The Phelen patent is directed to a computer system for identifying local resources. In Phelen, if information relating to a place of interest is requested from an information server by a client computer, the information is superimposed or laid on a map image at a position corresponding to the point of interest (see abstract). However Applicants submit that Phelen does not appear to disclose transmission of pieces of map selection data each of which specifies a map to be selected and pieces of coordinate data each of which specifies a point where additional information is to be presented on the selected map as now variously set forth in independent claims 4-6.

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 4-6 are allowable for at least the same reasons as described above with regard to independent claim 1, as well as for reasons of their own. Therefore, in view of the foregoing, it is respectfully requested that the objections and rejections of record be reconsidered and withdrawn by the Examiner, that claims 1-6 be allowed and that the application be passed to issue.

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Should the Examiner believe a conference would be of benefit in expediting the prosecution of the instant application, he is hereby invited to telephone counsel to arrange such a conference.

Respectfully submitted,



Donald R. Studebaker

Registration No. 32,815

NIXON PEABODY LLP
Suite 900, 401 9th Street, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20004-2128
(202) 585-8000

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